

















Geronimo Stilton A learned and brainy mouse; editor of The Rodent's Gazette



Thea Stilton
Geronimo's sister and
special correspondent at
The Rodent's Gazette













Trap Stilton
An awful joker;
Geronimo's cousin and
owner of the store
Cheap Junk for Less



Benjamin Stilton A sweet and loving nine-year-old mouse; Geronimo's favorite nephew



















Geronimo Stilton

MOUSE OVERBOARD!



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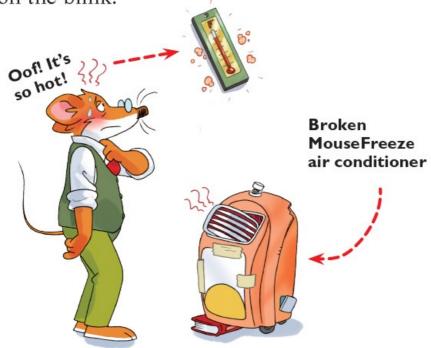
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Holey **MeLtep** cheese sticks, it was a hot day — a real WHISKER S(OR(HER! The sun sizzled high over New Mouse City, and there wasn't a hint of a **breeze**. To make things worse, my **air** conditioner was on the blink.



Oops, I almost forgot to introduce myself! My name is Stilton, Geronimo Stilton. I run The Rodent's Gazette, the most famouse daily newspaper on Mouse Island. Anyway, that day I was home catching up on my accounting. I was head over whiskers excited to see that my newspaper had also become the BESTSELLING paper on Mouse Island!

I will destroy
The Rodent's
Gazette!

Sally Ratmousen is the publisher of The Daily Rat and Geronimo's number one competitor.

Then the phone rang.

At the other end, a familiar voice shrieked in my ear.

"Stilton!

You cheddarhead! I can't believe your newspaper has **Outsold** mine! You better watch your tail! I will destroy *The Rodent's Gazette*!"

It was Sally Ratmousen, editor of *The Daily Rat* — my nemesis! I wanted to tell her not to take my **success** so personally, but she had already hung up on me.

I tried to go back to my work, but I was **Worried** about what Sally might do. And the heat was making fondue out of my brain!

In a panic, I called the repairmice at Mousefreeze Cooling Company. I had to get my air conditioner fixed! But the MouseFreeze receptionist had bad news.

"With this **heat wave**, all the repairmice are busy. You'll have to sit tight today!"

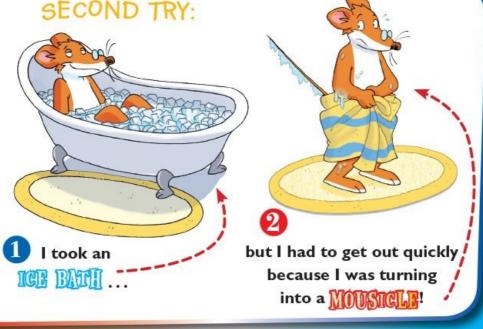
Sit tight?! I would MELI if I had to wait until

TOMORROW.

So I decided to get a little creative . . .

HERE'S WHAT I DID TO TRY TO KEEP COOL . . .



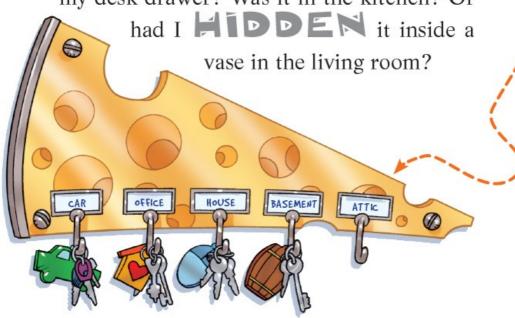






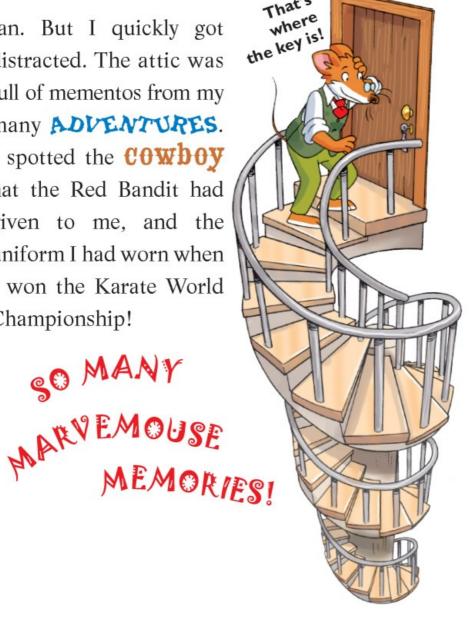
After all of that, I finally remembered that I still had an old **FAN** in the attic. It was my last hope for staying cool!

But . . . where had I put the key? Was it HANGING in the hall? Did I put it in my desk drawer? Was it in the kitchen? Or



I looked everywhere until I **finally** found it — still inside the attic door's keyhole! I went in and started to look for the

fan. But I quickly got distracted. The attic was full of mementos from my many ADVENTURES. I spotted the **COWDOY** hat the Red Bandit had given to me, and the uniform I had worn when I won the Karate World Championship!





- My Attic

 1) The golf clubs I used when I won the Super Mouse Cup with Grandfather
- 2) The wet suit I wore while scuba diving off Shell Island.
- 3) The old suitcase I used while vacationing at the Ratty Tatty Hotel.
- 4) The skis I used while skiing on Frozen Fur Peak.
- 5) The basketball signed by Bounce Ballmouse.
- 6) The soccer cleats I wore when I won the Mouse Island soccer tournament.
- 7) The cowboy hat the Red Bandit gave me.



- 8) The chef's hat I wore during the Super Chef Contest.
- 9) The uniform I wore during the Karate World Championship.
- 10) My favorite furry snow boots.
- 11) The astronaut suit I wore during my space mission.
- 12) The crystal gondola Petunia Pretty Paws bought me, which led to my adventure in Venice.
- 13) My great-grandmother Ratricia's collection of chamber pots.
- 14) The fan Thea gave me.



With a start, I remembered the whole **reason** I had come to the attic — the fan! There it was high up on a far shelf, right above my great-grandmother's **chamber pot** collection!

The chamber pots were all colors, shapes, and sizes. Some had **designs** of different kinds of cheeses; some were made of **CRYSTAL**; some were shaped like Greek

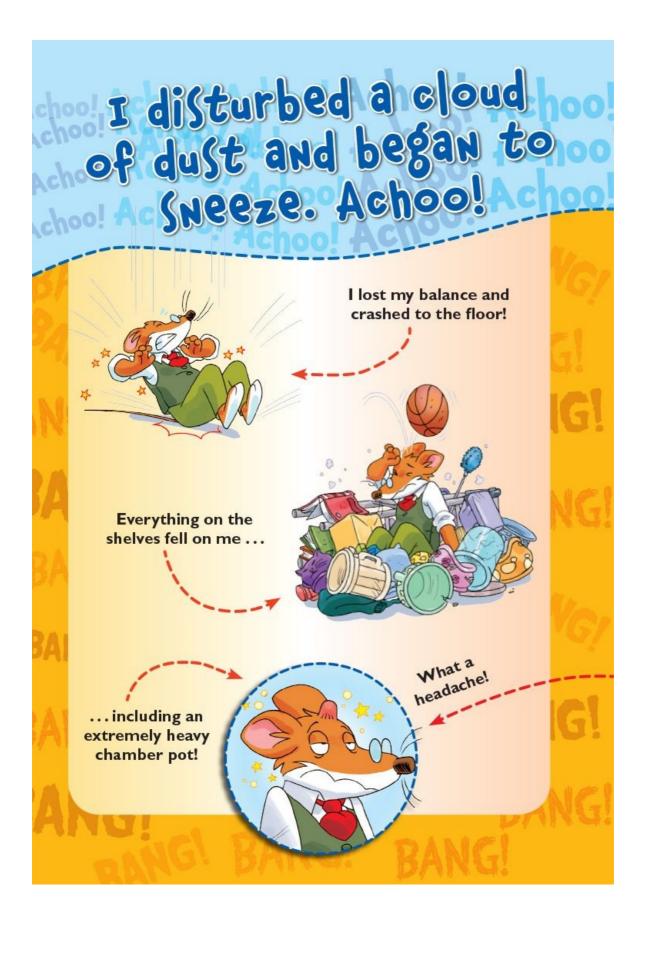


columns; others were hand-painted. There was even one in the **shape** of a cat's head . . .

I reached out my **PQW** to get the fan and disturbed a huge cloud of dust.

I sneezed so much, I lost my balance and crashed to the floor.





Even worse, I ended up pulling everything on the shelves down with me, including the chamber pots!

CRASH! BANG! SMASH! BANG! BOOM!

With a final **CRASH**, the massive chamber pot shaped like a **Cat's head** fell right on top of me. Cheese niblets! That made me see a billion stars — and all their planets!

What a headache!

Rubbing my head, I took the fan down to the living room. Then I sat on my favorite pawchair with an ice pack on my head

and the fan blowing at full speed.

AHH, WHat a Pelief! I was finally comfortable.

I had almost dozed off when the doorbell rang, jolting me awake.

DING-DONG! DITITING DONG! DING-DOOOONG!

Who could it be? Curious, I hightailed it to open the door.





As soon as I opened the door, I was **OVERWHELMED** by a booming yell.





Moldy mozzarella! It was my grandfather William Shortpaws! I didn't have a chance to ask why he was here, because he immediately roared, "GRANDSON! What are you doing cooped up in the house with the shades down? Snoring away the afternoon in your pawchair, I'll bet!"

"Actually, with this **HEAT WAVE**, I can't seem to concentrate. And my **ATT** is broken, so —" I tried to explain, but Grandfather interrupted.

"I don't want to hear any excuses! Since it seems like you have NOTHING to do here, you won't mind that I'm sending you to Portugal! A friend of mine needs a favor, and you're the best mouse for the job."

"Me? Go to **PORTUGAL**? When? How? And, most important, why?"

"No questions!" my grandfather snapped.

"Hop in the van and get going!"

Only then did I notice there was a parked in front of my house.

The van was overloaded with every kind of **LUGGAGE**. There was even a huge inflatable duck float!

My sister, Thea; my cousin Trap; my nephew Benjamin; and his friend Bugsy Wugsy were all **ready** and waiting for me.



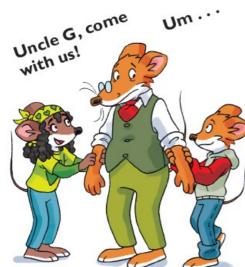


"Are you all going to **Portugal** with me?" I asked.

"You bet we are, Cuz!" Trap said.

"I can't go to Portugal now!" I protested. "I'm very BUSY with The Rodent's Gazette!" I wanted to STICK around and see what kind of revenge Sally Ratmousen might be plotting.

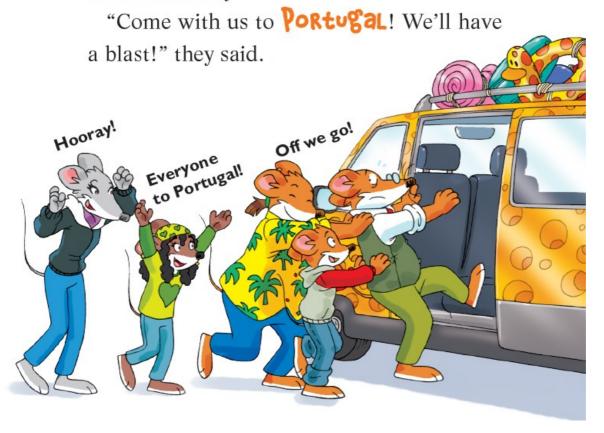
"No excuses, Grandson!" my GRANDFATHER thundered. "I'll take care of the newspaper



for you while you're gone."

"You seem a little down," Thea said. "You have bags under your eyes, and your fur is faded. You're too stressed! You have to come with us. It'll be good for you!"

I was about to refuse, but Bugsy took my right \(\bigcap \), and Benjamin took my left one. They \(\bigcap \) \(\bigcap \) up at me with big, \(\bigcap \) \(\bigcap \) eyes.



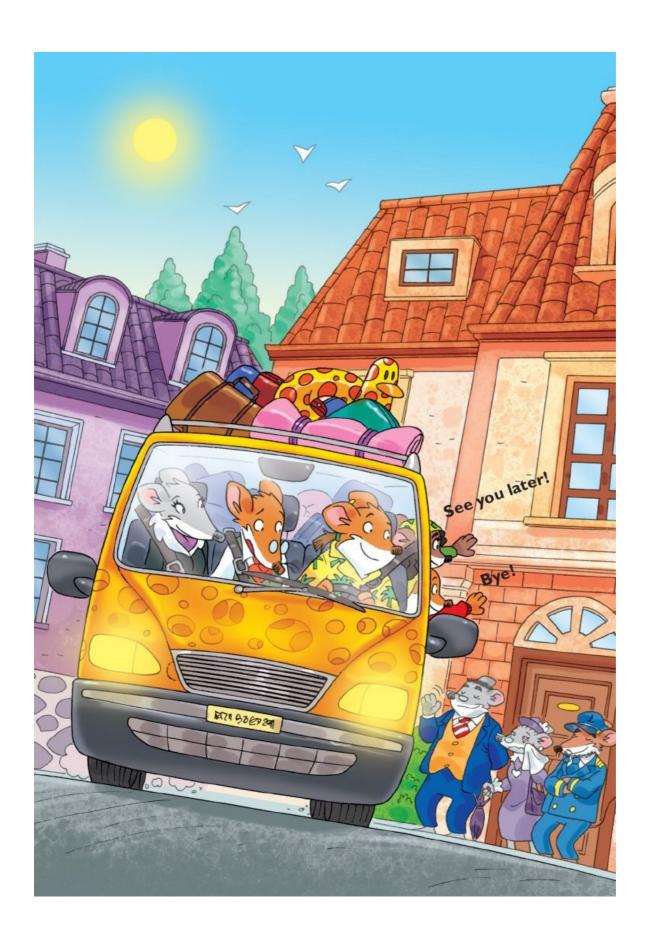


How could I refuse them? "Oh, all right. But I have to **PACK** and —"

I didn't even have time to finish my sentence before everybody pushed me into the van, shouting, "Yaaaay! We're off to Portugal!"

I looked out the window to say goodbye to Grandfather and Saw Aunt Sweetfur and Uncle Grayfur. Aunt Sweetfur looked worried as she waved her handkerchief at me. She dried a tear and called, "Take care, my little nephew."

She always worries when we go on trips. But this time, she seemed more anxious than usual! Uncle Grayfur waved goodbye. "Once you're on board, make us **PROUD**, Nephew!"





Why was Aunt Sweetfur so worried about me this time? Why did Uncle Grayfur tell me to make them proud "on board"? Why did Grandfather need me to help someone in Portugal?

"What are we doing in Portugal?" I asked suspiciously.

Thea smiled at me. "We've all been officially invited to Lisbon, **Portugal**, for a very important historic commemoration,"

Hee, hee!

she said. "It turns out that we Stiltons are the descendants of a famouse Portuguese rodent!"

Then she **glanced** at **TRAP**, and he chuckled to himself.



"What exactly will I be doing at this **historic** commemoration? Who is the friend of Grandfather's who needs a favor?" I asked.

"I don't want to say too much and **??!!** the surprise," Thea said. "But you'll be doing what our ancestor became famouse for."



Thea and Trap exchanged a look. Trap chuckled again.

Why all the mystery? I wondered.

I didn't have much time to think more about it, because Bugsy Wugsy **shouted** in my ear, "Uncle G! We're at the airport! Lisbon is waiting for us!"

Thea checked her watch. "CHEESE AND CRACKERS! We're late! We have

to **hurry**, or we'll miss

our flight!"

I trudged into the airport LOADED down with the luggage. I wondered who our Portuguese ancestor would turn out to be. Was it a famouse writer? Or a SCIENTIST?



Or maybe an inventor?

I kept thinking about it the whole time we were waiting for our PLANE and while we were boarding. I was so immersed in my thoughts that I tripped over my own Paws and sprawled in the aisle! Luggage flew in all directions, and the inflatable duck float wound up around an old rodent's neck!

All the passengers burst out LAUGHING. "Ha, ha, ha!"

"Hey, isn't that Geronimo Stilton?"

"I didn't know he was such a klutz!"

"How embarrassing for him!"

Squeeeeak! Poor me!

The old rodent with the enormouse inflatable duck around her neck frowned at me.

"You should be more careful!" she scolded.





My fur turned pink with emparrassment. I picked up all the luggage and mumbled my apologies. I finally got to my seat and sank **DEEPLY** into it. To take my mind off things, I picked up the travel guide on **Portugal** and began to read it.









While reading the **GUIDEBOOK**, I kept wondering who our famouse Portuguese ancestor could be. Did we look alike? He was probably a mouse who loved books and had a fear of traveling like me. Maybe he even got **Seasic** just like I do!

I TAPPED Thea on the shoulder. "Did our famouse ancestor look like me? I bet we have a lot in common."

She burst out **laughing**. "Not at all! He was bold, courageous, and not afraid of anything."

I tried not to look offended. "So who is it? I have to know!"

Trap chuckled. "Tell him," he said. "He can't **escape now**, unless, of course, he jumps out of the plane!"

Thea smiled. "Well, okay. Our famouse ancestor is . . . the great explorer Vasco da Gama!"

My whiskers **trembled**. "The great Portuguese **NaViGator**?" I shrieked.

Ack!

Benjamin, who had overheard our conversation, started squeaking with excitement. "Yeah, that's the one! Isn't that fabumouse?"

"I don't understand,"

I muttered, perplexed. "Are you a thousand percent sure

that we are Vasco da Gama's descendants? We don't look anything like him!"

Trap pinched my ear playfully. "You're so wrong, Cuz. You look a lot like him. Both of you have two ears! Both of you have a tail and whiskers! You're practically identical! A real slice off the old cheese block!"

"That's not true!" I retorted. "I'm the opposite of Vasco da Gama in every way!"

"All of us Stiltons are his descendants," Thea explained. "They just found out! That's why we are invited on this fabumouse reenactment of his first expedition. All the descendants of those who participated in that landmark voyage will be on the cruise. Isn't it mouse as the looked thrilled.

I became paler than a ball of FRESC mozzarella.

VASCO DA GAMA





He was fearless!



I hate to travel!





I sometimes have trouble finding my way home!





He was always ready for adventure!



I'm a big 'fraidy mouse! "Did you say *cruise*? You mean we'll be traveling by **\$-\$-\$68**?" I asked.

"Yes! Isn't it wild? We'll be on an old sailing ship, just like the one VASCO DA GAMA used!" squeaked Bugsy Wugsy, full of excitement.

Thea handed me an **ivory-colored** envelope. "This is the *official invitation*. You'll be the guest of honor."

I opened the envelope with trembling paws and read the letter.

Holey cheese! There it was. The letter said that I, *Geronimo Stilton*, was not only one of Vasco da Gama's descendants but that I had to take on his role in the reenactment!

"NO WAY!" I cried in exasperation. "I get **SEASICK**. Besides, I don't even know how to steer a **RIWIT**, so how am I supposed to play Vasco da Gama?

The Vasco da Gama Anniversary Cruise

DEAR MR. STILTON,

We are honored to inform you that as a descendant of the great Portuguese navigator Vasco da Gama, you and your family are officially invited to retrace the principal steps of his voyage to India on board the São Gabriel, an exact replica of the ship used by Vasco da Gama.

You will have the honor of taking the role of the great navigator and steering the ship yourself. As his descendant, you will certainly understand all there is to know about navigation!

WE WILL EAGERLY AWAIT YOU IN LISBON ON PIER 7 ON JULY 7.

BEST WISHES,

Julio Rattio

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TOURISM





Your brain must have as many holes as a slice of Swiss if you think I'm going to board an ancient ship

and run the risk of being **shipwrecked!**As soon as we land, I'm getting on the next flight home!"

Trap pinched my ear again. "Not possible, Cuz! You can't go back. But don't worry. I brought this inflatable duck in case we get shipwrecked."

"Look, Geronimo, I'm sorry, but you can't refuse,"
Thea said **FIRMLY**.
She leaned in close. "The tourism secretary is an old friend of Grandfather's," she whispered.

"Secretary Rattio thinks there's someone signed up for the **REENACTMENT** who isn't who they say they are."

"What's that have to do with me?" I whispered back.

"Grandfather and the secretary want you to **unmask** the potential saboteur!"

Moldy mozzarella! I was stuck!



A SLICE OFF THE OLD CHEESE BLOCK

We finally landed in Lisbon. As soon as we **got off** the plane, a waiting band struck up the national anthem of Mouse Island.

We all placed our right **paws** over our hearts and sang the anthem together. What a fabumouse welcome!





"A thousand voices squeak as one.

A thousand tails proudly wag.

A thousand whiskers boldly quiver.

A thousand paws raise your yellow flag!

Under our fur,

a thousand hearts beat for you,

sweet, sweet Mouse Island."





Despite my worries about the coming sea voyage, my whiskers trembled with joy at hearing the Mouse Island anthem! We walked toward the secretary for tourism on the loooong red carpet rolled out for us. Trap pinched my ear.

"Cousin, I'm warning you. For once, try not to embarrass us —"

But Trap didn't have time to finish his sentence. I was so excited to meet the secretary for tourism, I TRIPPED on the edge of the carpet. Then I frantically GRASPED the air in an attempt to keep my balance, but, despite my arm FLAPPING, I fell smack on my head! (Luckily, the carpet was soft!) From there, I tumbled into a mousetacular somersault... 3 and found myself back on my paws in front of the secretary!



The secretary applauded with GUSTO.

"Welcome to Portugal, Mr. Stilton! We see immediately that you are a bold, athletic, and courageous rodent — just like your ancestor Vasco da Gama! You are the spitting image of him — You're a real slice Off the old Cheese block!"

I blushed pink from the tip of my tail to the tips of my ears. "Um . . . thank you . . .



but I don't really think I'm **anything** like Vasco da Gama . . ."

Everybody burst out laughing.

No one laughed harder than the secretary. "Ha, ha, ha! So humble, Mr. Stilton! Just like Vasco da Gama! Like I said, a real slice off the old cheese block."

Trap stepped in before I could say anything else. "You have to excuse my cousin, Mr. Secretary. He's a very MODEST mouse. Everyone can clearly see that he and our ancestor have a lot in common. They both have two ears, two eyes, and one tail!"

I gave up! There was nothing I could do.

Everyone was convinced I was just like Vasco da Gama! I didn't have time to think anymore about it. The secretary invited us to get in a ### that was waiting for us at the end of the runway. I shook Secretary Rattio's

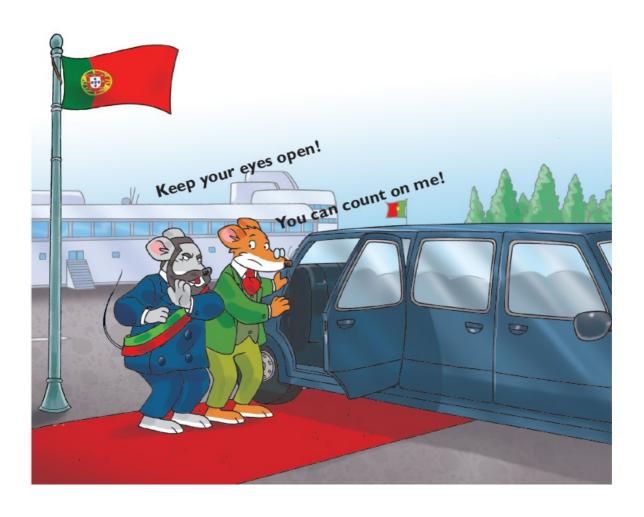
paw and thanked him for his welcome. I was about to get in when he tapped me on my shoulder.

"Mr. Stilton, I know that besides being Vasco da Gama's **DESCENDENT**, you're also an extremely competent **DETECTIVE**. Your grandfather speaks highly of you. As he may have mentioned, I suspect that someone is planning to sabotage the *São Gabriel* voyage! Please find out who it is. You're the only one who can help me!"

As much as I was dreading getting on that boat, I could see the secretary was very worried. He had been so welcoming — I wanted to **HCLP** him if I could. "You can count on this mouse," I said.

The secretary looked relieved. "The ship will launch tomorrow at dawn," he said. "In the meantime, you can \[\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \] a

Almouse, your driver, will be your guide and also your bodyguard. Thank you, Mr. Stilton — and keep your **EYES OPEN**. Portugal's **honor** is in your paws!"





As soon as we got in the car, Bernardo Almouse hit the gas, and we took off. The tires screeched like a scared cat. Then he turned the radio on at full blast. He sighed happily. "This is what I call MUSIC! This is fado. It's traditional Portuguese music."

Luled by the melancholy melodies, I forgot all my Worries and became immersed in

Fado

Fado is a famous genre of Portuguese music that became popular in the 1820s and '30s. It was commonly performed in taverns and cafés. The word fado means "fate" in Portuguese. This type of music is often emotional and deals with heartfelt stories of everyday life.

the beautiful sights of the city as they flashed by.

> "Are you ready to DISCOVER Lisbon?" Bernardo Almouse shouted.

66666666666

BERNARDO, ALMOUSE

A mouse of many resources!

He's not just a CHAUFFEUR. He's also a TOUR GUIDE, a BODYGUARD,

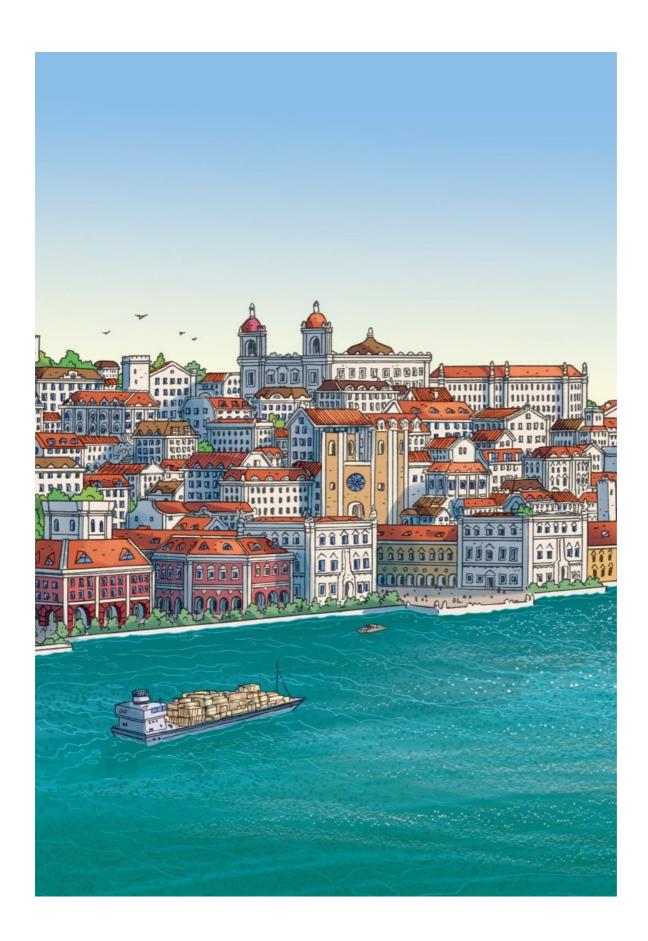
and a COOK. He specializes in traditional Portuguese dishes made with dried cod. Bernardo is also an extremely talented SAILOR. He has traveled the seven seas and knows thousands of mysterious legends about the ocean.

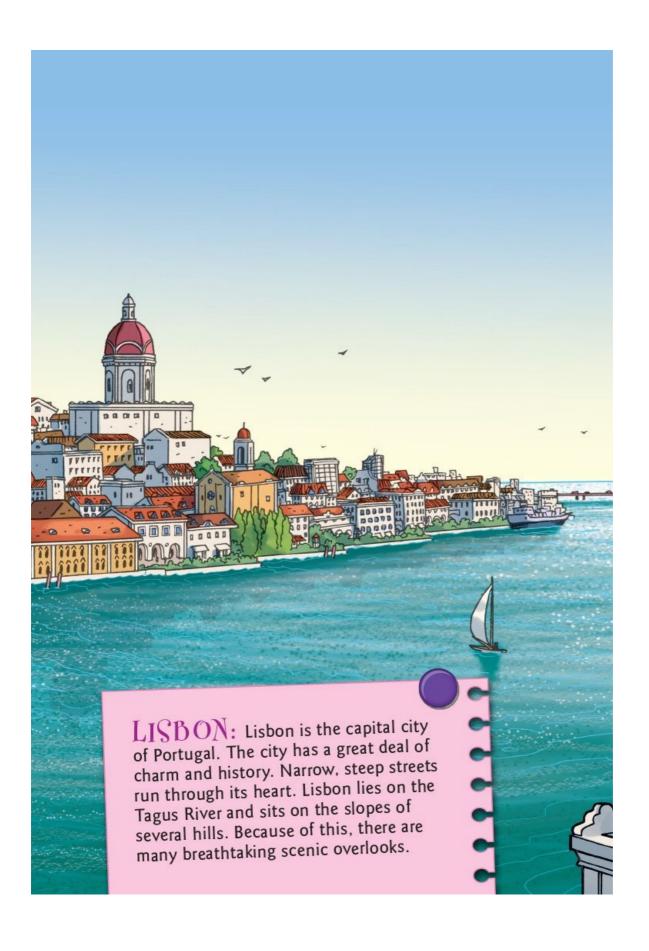
He is not AFRAID of anything or anyone. He's always ready with a joke and is a big talker.

Bernardo's real PASSION is fado. He listens to it continuously on his car stereo. He even plays the Portuguese guitar and sings fado regularly.

He's secretly IN LOVE with the beautiful Maria do Sol, the glamorous and very famouse fado singer.

He has fifteen cousins, all of whom are CHEFS.





"You're going to love it! We'll visit the Grand Oceanarium, the National Park, and Jerónimos Monastery, and we'll end at the Belém Tower!"

"What an **amazing** itinerary!" Thea exclaimed.

"AWESOME!" Benjamin squeaked.
"The Oceanarium is one of the biggest aquariums in the world!"

"Bernardo, you didn't mention the **most** important thing," I said.

"What did I forget?" he asked.

"You forgot lunch! And a snack! And dinner!" I exclaimed.

Bernardo happily twirled his whiskers.

"Nenhum problema!* I have that planned, too! We'll have a picnic lunch at the PARK OF NATIONS prepared by my cousin Codmouse the First. Then we'll stop for

^{*} *Nenhum problema* means "no problem" in Portuguese.

bakery in Lisbon, where my cousin Codmouse the Second works, and have dinner at Casa de Fado, where my cousin Codmouse the Third works. Then we'll spend the night at the HOTEL my cousin Codmouse the Fourth owns."

"How many **COUSINS** do you have?" Trap asked, laughing.

"Fifteen! And they're all chefs like my great-uncle, the cook who prepared the BEST BACALHAU—salted cod—in all of Lisbon! But enough talking. Here's the OCEANARIUM! Everybody out. The tour starts now!"



A picnic at the Park of Nations!



A snack at a famouse bakery!



Then bedtime at the hotel!

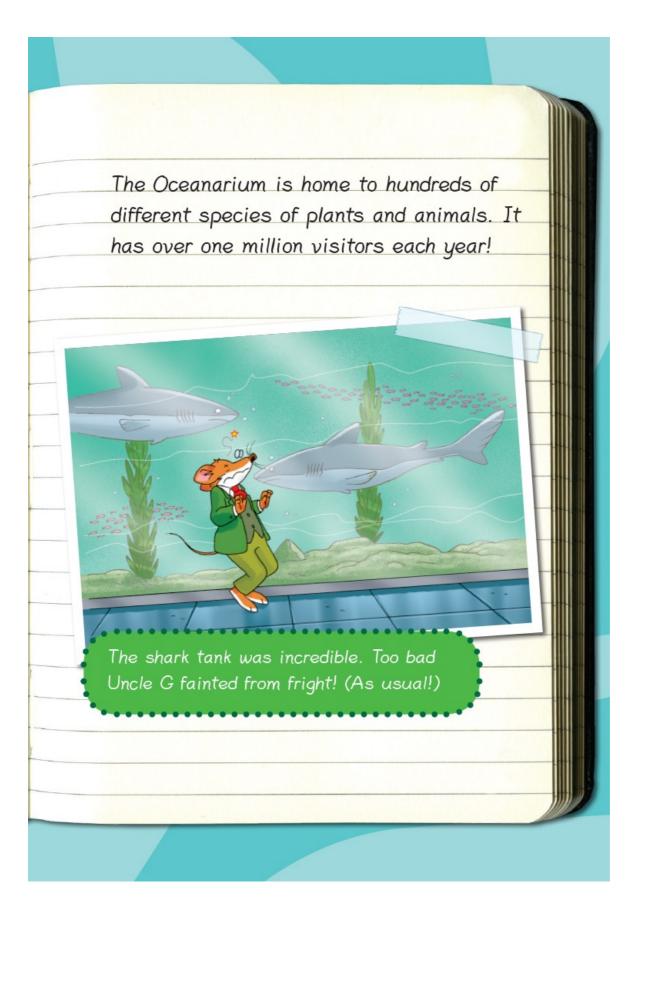
BENJAMIN AND BUGSY WUGSY'S NOTES

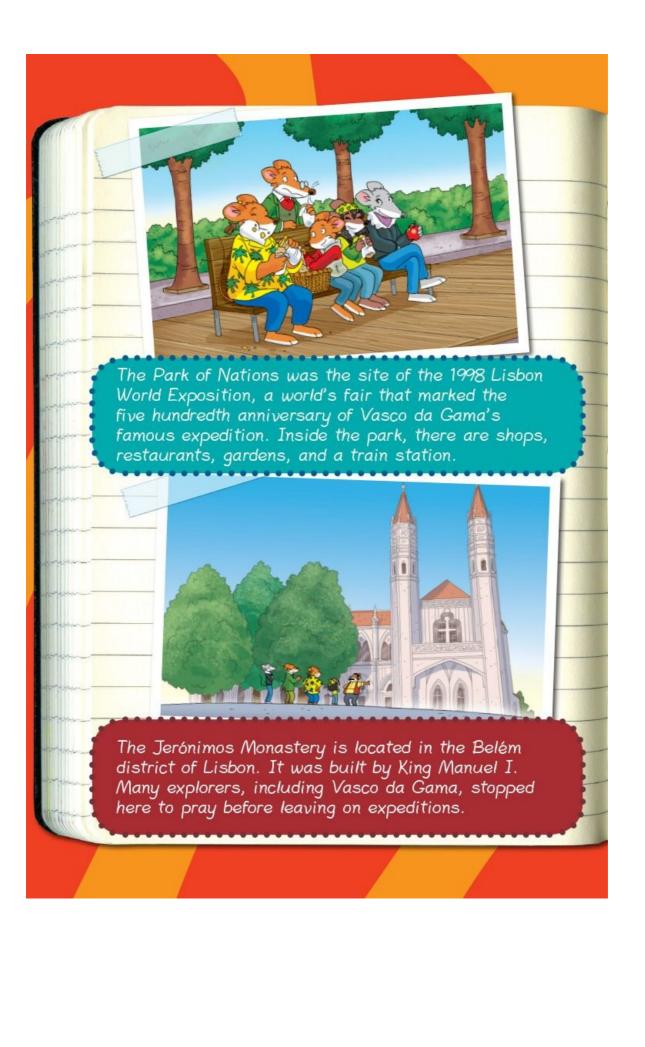
THE LISBON OCEANARIUM

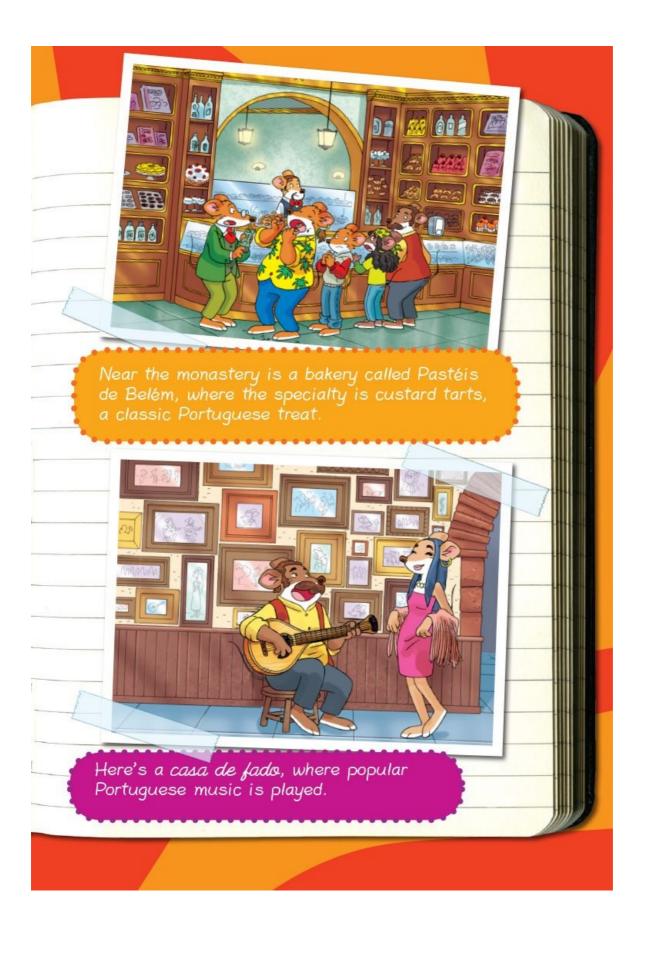
Opened in 1998, the Oceanarium is a large aquarium dedicated to marine species that live in the oceans, and to their habitats.



Here we are at the entrance of the Oceanarium. It's truly amazing, mouselets! Uncle Trap was a prankster. (As usual!)









I couldn't enjoy the tour of the city as much as everyone else. The next morning we'd be sailing on a rickety old ship. Shiver my whiskers! Would we end up stranded on a desert island? Would we end up as a snack for sharks? I almost fainted from fright when I saw them in the Oceanarium! And to top it all off, someone apparently wanted to sale of the city as much as much as everyone else. The city as much as everyone else. The next morning we'd be sailing on a rickety old ship. Shiver my whiskers! Would we end up stranded on a desert island? Would we end up as a snack for sharks? I almost fainted from fright when I saw them in the Oceanarium!

The secretary's words kept popping into my head: "Keep your eyes open . . ."

Keep my **EYES OPEN** I did! I was so stressed, I couldn't close my eyes the entire night! **Squeak!**

The following morning, when Bernardo Almouse took us to the Lisbon port to board

the ship, I had **bags** under both eyes, my



stared at me, confused.

"Are you sleeping? I had asked you to keep your **EYES OPEN**..."

Always alert, Thea quickly **ELBOWED** me in the ribs. "Don't worry, Mr. Secretary. My brother is completely awake . . . In fact, I've never seen him more bright-eyed and bushy-tailed!"

I tried to open my eyes wider. "Yes, yes,

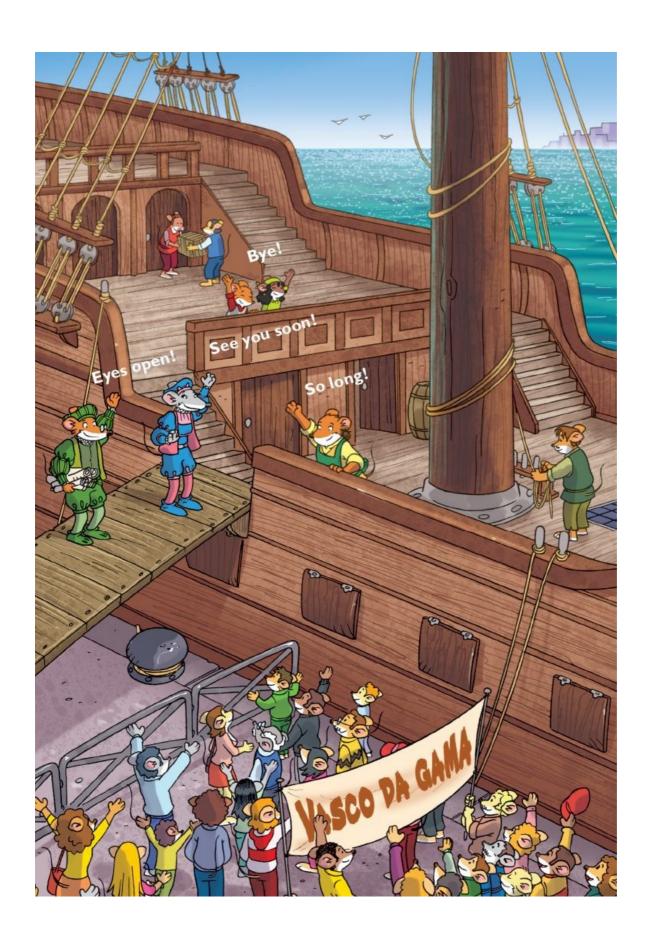
I'm very awake. Look, Secretary Rattio, my **EYES** are open and ready to spot a saboteur!"

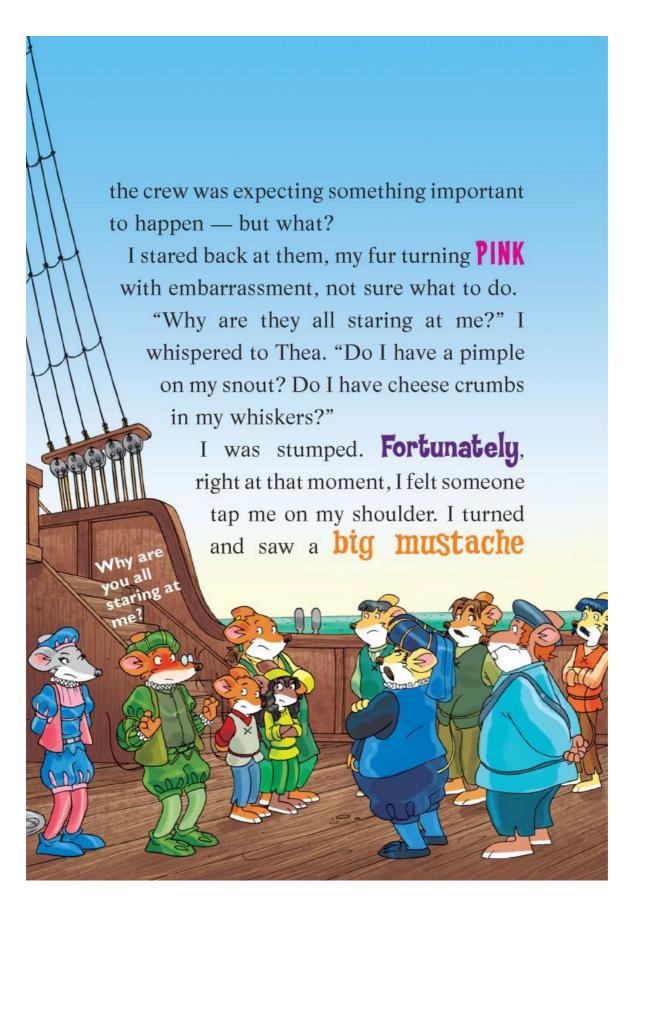
The secretary slapped me so hard on my back that I **STAGGERED** forward.

"That's what I like to see, Mr. Stilton. You're awake, brave, and ready for anything, just like your ancestor VASCO DA GAMA! Hurry now, put on the costume. The ship is about to set sail!"

A few minutes later, we were on board the **São Gabriel**, a replica of Vasco da Gama's famouse flagship.

The ship's entire crew, **dressed** in period clothes like us, was lined up on the deck of the *São Gabriel*. We all looked like we had stepped right out of history! Everyone stared at me in complete **Silence**. You could have heard a cheese slice **drep**. It seemed like





attached to a familiar smiling face . . . It was Bernardo Almouse!

"Mr. Stilton," he whispered. "I mean, Admiral! You have to address the crew to start the voyage off on the right paw!"

He handed me a **Sheet** of paper with some pointers for my speech. "It's lucky for you I'm also going on this voyage. Who knows what kind of trouble you might get into without me!"

"What are you doing here?" I whispered.

He winked at me. "Didn't you know? I'm also a descendant of someone who participated in Vasco da Gama's expedition. I'm the helmsmouse's great-great-great-great-great-grandson! The secretary also wanted me to help you track down the potential

troublemaker. Better get going with that speech. The crew is getting impatient!"

Trap **pinched** me on the ear. "Say something, Geronimo. Don't be a scaredy-mouse!"

Thea patted my back. "Hurry up and give your speech, Geronimo. The crew is starting to get cranky."

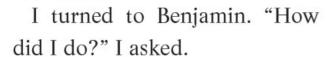
"You're representing all of us!"

I quickly looked at the notes **Bernardo** had handed me. I cleared my throat, stood up straight, squared my shoulders, and tried to look as confident as possible, just like a **PEAL ADMIRAL** would. I gazed out at the crowd. I wondered which mouse out there might be up to no good . . .

"Dear rodent **friends**, welcome aboard the *São Gabriel*! We've all been granted

Dear rodent friends . . .

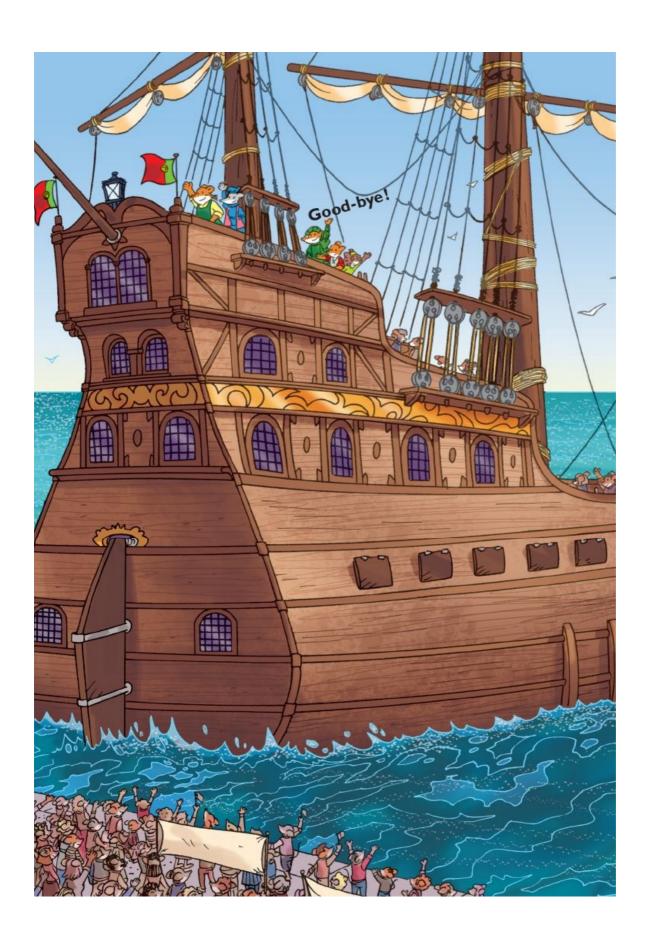
the tremendmouse honor of reliving the experience of **VASCO DA GAMA'S** first expedition! I hope everyone will do his or her best for the success of this voyage. And now, all mice to their places! Raise the anchor! **Set sail!**"

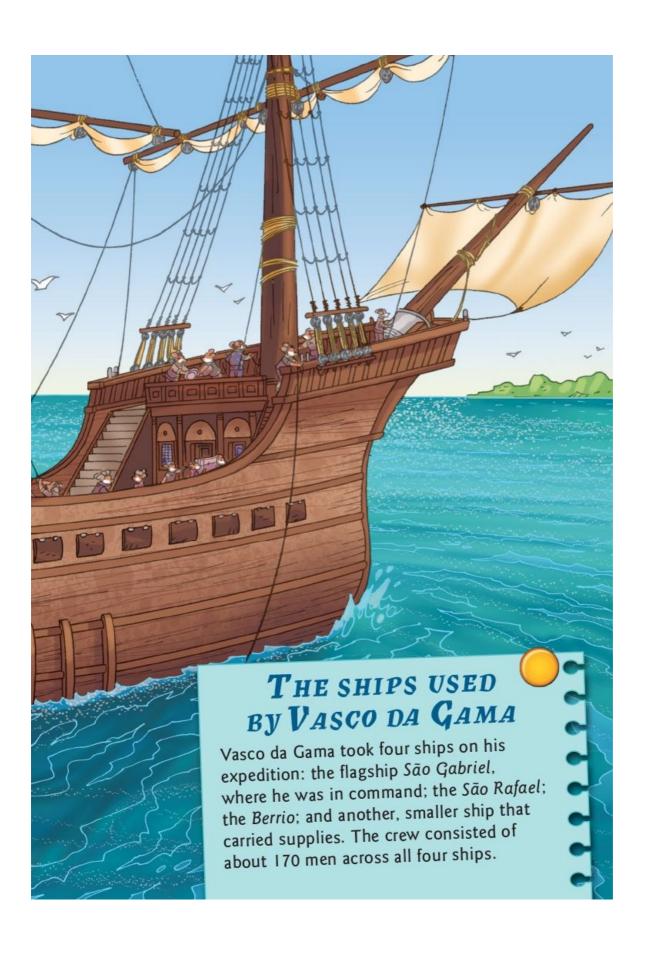


"You were awesome, Uncle G!" he answered.

"Three Cheers for Geronimo Stilton, our Captain!" the crew exclaimed.

Within a few minutes, the ship was headed toward the open sea. The water shimmered in the early morning light, and the deck was busy with crewmice.







Mouse Overboard!

As soon as we got to the open S: A, Bernardo took me to my cabin. He handed me a nautical chart that was exactly like the one used by the great Vasco pa Gama.

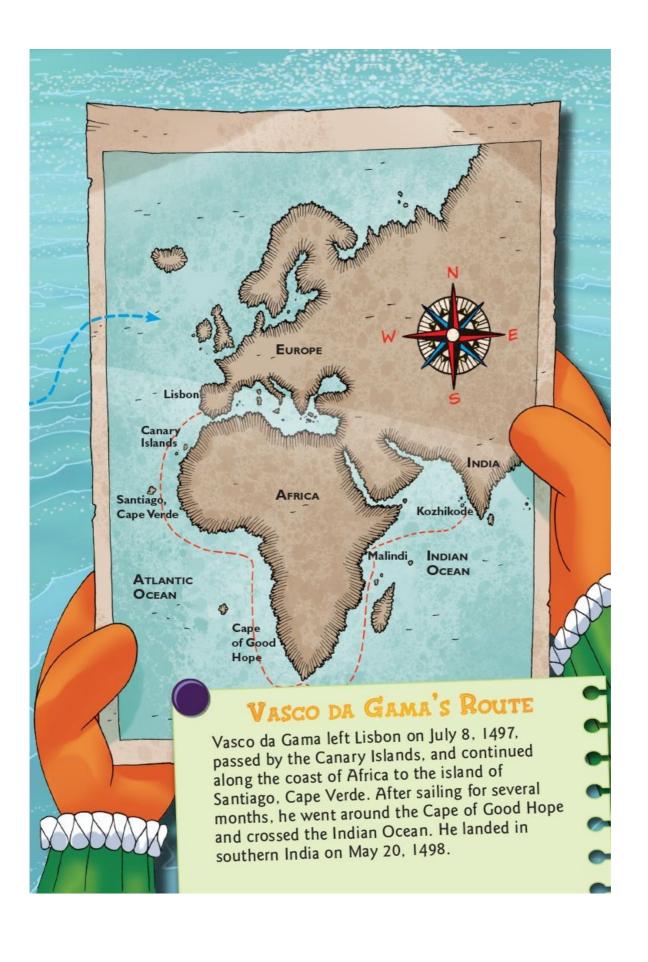
"Admiral, what's our route? A **real captain** always knows the best way!"

Nhich way

I squinted at the chart, not sure what

I was looking at. I **turned** it one way and then the other. I flipped it over and then back again.

Rancid ricotta! I couldn't understand one bit of it! Bernardo winked at me.



"A real captain knows seas and currents, sails and ropes, anchors and helms!" he said. "But, between the two of us mice, I think you're a landupper and you don't understand any of it!"

"I never said I was a good sailor," I answered, a little offended. "Everybody knows I don't know how to sail, and I get seasick!"

Bernardo burst out laughing. "Don't worry!
I'll help you get up to speed," he said. "A real captain also knows every single mouse in his crew. Why don't you start by getting to know them? That will give you a chance to see

if any of them seem **SUSPICIOUS**. I'll take care of the navigating!"

Bernardo handed me a folder with the names and roles of every crew member. I rounded up Benjamin and Bugsy Wugsy. With them at my side, I **STAGGERED** toward the bridge in an attempt to get to know my crew.

But, unfortunately, the ship was swaying side to side. My stomach did flip-flops, and my snout got warm.

Waves of nausea **Polled** over me as the ocean waves rolled past the ship. But even though I was getting seasick, I decided to keep going. I didn't want to be **EMBARRASSED** in front of my crew. And besides, I needed to keep my eyes open for anyone who might want to **salpotage** our voyage.





I w to (my got worse... got





Unfortunately, just as I was about to squeak to George Gorgonzola, my **SEASICKNESS** got even worse.

To hide how awful I felt, I LOOKED

OVER the side of the ship to admire the scenery, my fur turning greener than a moldy cheese rind.

"Ah, what a beautiful sea! It's so blue!"

felt two paws on my shoulders. Before I could turn around, someone **SHOVED**

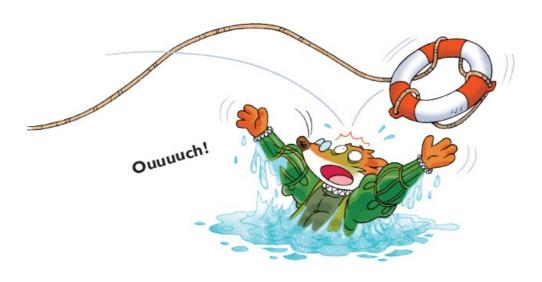
me overboard! I landed in the water with a giant SPLASH!

FORTUNATELY, Benjamin saw what happened. He shouted for help, and an alarm resonated throughout the ship:

"MOUSE OVERBOARD!"

Someone threw me a life preserver . . . but it landed smack on my head!

"SQUERARK! OUGH!"



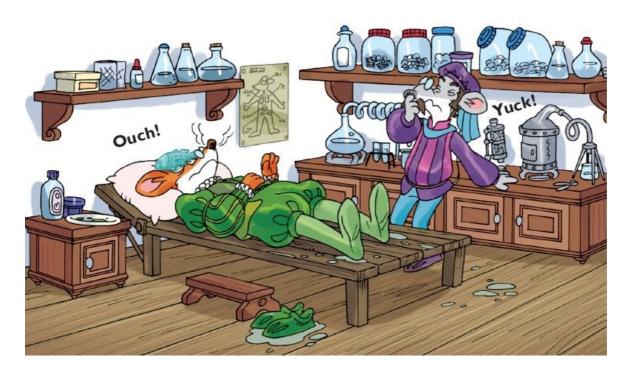


FISHY FIRST AID

The crew fished me out of the water and rushed me to the infirmary. Dr. Matthew Mayo was waiting for me. He treated the **ENORMOUSE LUMP** on my head with a compress made of **FROZEN COD**.

"Be sure to keep the fish on your injury!"

Dr. Mayo said. "It **smells** a little, but it'll do wonders!"



In fact, it didn't just smell. It really, really stunk!

As soon as the doctor left the infirmary, Thea, Trap, Benjamin, and Bugsy Wugsy came to see me. They all looked very worried.

"I think someone рц**shed** me!" I said.

happened to me, too," Trap said. "While I was cooking the **fish** for tonight's dinner, someone moved around the food on the **TOVE** a second before it would have burned!

WHO would've done that?"

"That's weire!" Bugsy Wugsy added. "Earlier today,





I tried and tried to fold the **Sails**, but I couldn't do

it. When I came back later,

Someone had secretly folded them for me!"

Benjamin nodded. "The same thing happened to me. I tried to wind the Pes, but I made a mess of them and got all tangled up. When I went back later to fix them, they were all neatly coiled. Maybe there's a ghost on board!"

"There's no ghost," I said, shaking my head.
"But Secretary Rattio did warn me to keep my EYE out for a mouse who might





be trying to sabotage the **Voyage**."

Thea shook her head. "But the mysterious rodent Benjamin, Bugsy Wugsy, and Trap described was being LELPFUL. A real saboteur would want to cause as much trouble as possible. I think we're dealing with TWO DIFFERENT RODENTS!"

"Well, whoever shoved me in the water wasn't being **HELPFUL!**" I said, massaging my aching snout. "You might be right. We have to try to catch the saboteur with his paws in the cookie jar!"

"While you rest, I'm going to go with Trap to check out the kitchen," Thea said. "Maybe I'll find a **CLUE** there."

Once everyone left, I fell asleep with the **frozen codfish** compress on my head. I woke up several hours later surrounded by **FLIES!** The frozen cod had melted, and

it was even **smellier** than before! I quickly washed off and went up on the ship's deck to investigate . . . and a **HUGE** seagull swooped down and started to peck me!

I smelled so much like a **fish** that the seagull thought I was one! Desperate to get away, I jumped into a nearby lifeboat and **hid** under the tarp. The seagull soon flew away. But just as I was about to crawl back out, the lifeboat **plummeted** down into the water!

Oh no! I would never SURVIVE alone



in a lifeboat! Luckily, I could hear Bernardo

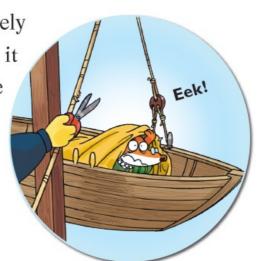
Almouse calling for help.

"MOUSE OVERBOARD!"

he yelled.

Once they had fished me out of the sea for the second time, Bernardo pulled me aside. "This was no accident, Admiral Stilton. Someone cut the rope securing the lifeboat!"

Someone was definitely up to no good - and it seemed like they were determined to ruin the voyage by sending me to the bottom of the OCEAN!



I'll be



My whiskers trembled with stress. "It was the saboteur! I'm not safe anywhere!"

"Don't worry, Admiral. I saw everything!"

BERNARD® grabbed the first officer by
the tail. "Here's the saboteur! It's George
Gorgonzola!"

A second later, Thea and Trap came from the **KITCHEN** holding the cabin mouse by the arms.





"Here is the saboteur! It's Paulo, It's Pa

"Everybody, stop!" I exclaimed. "We have one too many saboteurs here! **Bring** them to my cabin. I'll get to the bottom of this!"

BERNARD took them by the ears and dragged them to my cabin.

"Which one of you is the saboteur?" I asked.

Paulo the cabin mouse **purst** into tears. To our surprise, he reached up and took off his hair! Then he pulled off a mask! He was a **she**!



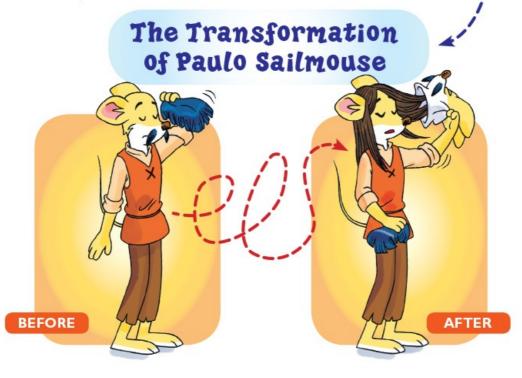
"I'm not a **SABOTEUR!**" she said through her tears. "I did crash the reenactment, but I'd never want to ruin it."

I handed have my handlesseles **Sob!**

I handed her my handkerchief.

She dried her TEARS and continued. "My name is Paulina Pecorina, and I really wanted to be part of this voyage. My great

to be part of this voyage. My great-great-great-great-great-grandfather was Vasco da Gama's personal chef, but his name was never included on the





crew list. I didn't get an official reenactment invitation, so I boarded under a false name and COOKED in secret!"

"That's why Trap's been serving such delicious dishes! It's been you the WHILE TIME!" Thea exclaimed. "You even kept Trap's fish from burning."

"Give me a little credit!" Trap Muttered.

Paulina **blushed**. "I just love cooking. I'm sorry about all this — but I never sabotaged anyone. You have to **BELIEVE** me!"

"I do believe you," I reassured her. "In fact, from now on you'll be the official **SHIP COOK!**" I said. "I'll let Secretary Rattio know about the error and have him add you to the official **VOYAGE** participant list."

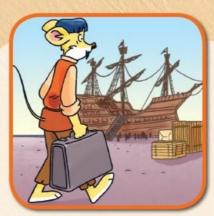
Paulina dried her tears. "Thank you, Admiral Stilton! That's very generous. I'm going to cook all my great-g



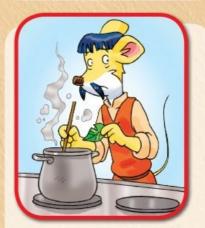
The Story of Paulina Pecorina, Aspiring Chef



Paulina's great-great-great-great-grandfather was Vasco da Gama's personal chef.



But he was never identified in the ship's records, so Paulina joined the reenactment in secret!



Paulina cooked when no one was watching . . .



... until she got caught!



grandfather's secret recipes. They're all here in this old recipe book I brought. It's been handed down in my family for generations!"

"That recipe book has to be worth its weight in **GOLD**!" Trap exclaimed. "We could publish it and become millionaires!"

"Paws down, Trap!" we all **SHOUTED** together. "The **RECIPE** book is **SECRET**!"

With one potential saboteur cleared, we had one suspect left. I turned to the first officer, George Gorgonzola. Suddenly,

MON!

he took off his hat,

tore off his false

WHISKERS, and
removed his mask!

What an ENORMOUSE
surprise! It
was none
other than



my NEMESIS, JALLY RATMOUSEN!

"It's me, Stilton!" Sally snarled. "When I came to your house to continue our conversation, I overheard that you had been invited to PORTUGAL. I followed you here and snuck on board this ship under a false name! I wanted to show everyone what a fool you really are!" Sally explained triumphantly. "I took photos of all your most embarrassing

THE TRANSFORMATION OF GEORGE GORGONZOLA BEFORE AFTER

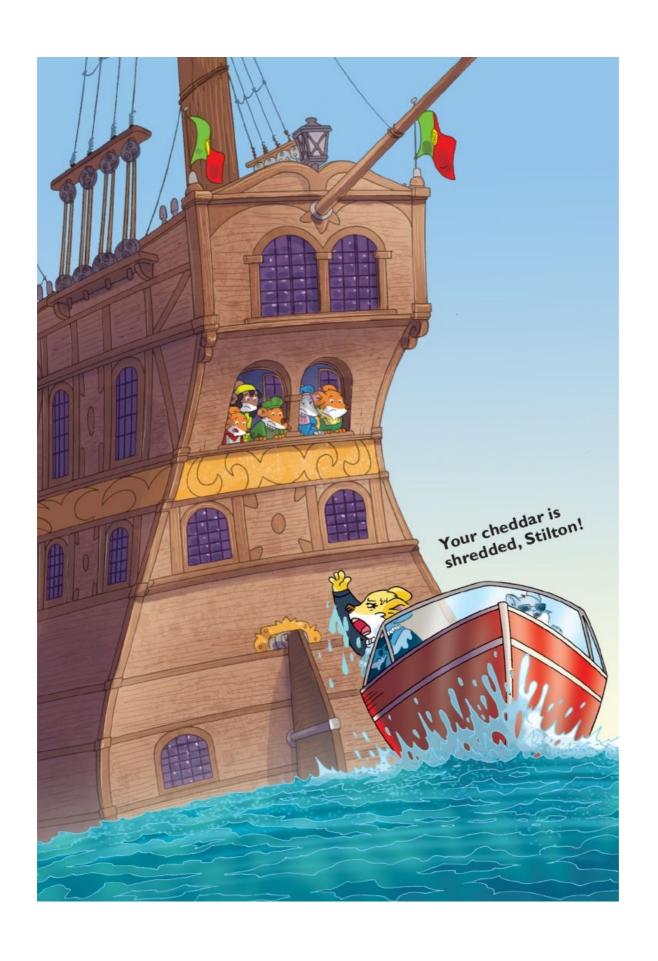
moments! I'm going to do a front-page story all about how ridiculous you are. It will sell out — mark my words! I can just see the headline:

Newsmouse Disgraces Famouse Navigator! Geronimo Stilton Ruins Reenactment!

"Sales of *The Daily Rat* are going to go UP, UP! And sales of *The Rodent's Gazette* are going to go (IOWI), (IOWI), (IOWI)."

Before we could stop her, Sally DasHED out of my cabin. We chased after her, but she was surprisingly fast! Once on deck, she dove headlong into the SEA and then boarded a waiting speedboat.

"You're finished, Stilton!" she yelled as she zoomed away. "Your cheppar is SHREDDED!"





Now that we knew Sally had been the saboteur, I felt **miserable**. Not only was it my fault the success of the reenactment had been put in danger, now Sally was going to publish **embarrassing** pictures of me!

I began to sob. "When Sally prints those photos, all of New Mouse City will be laughing at me!"

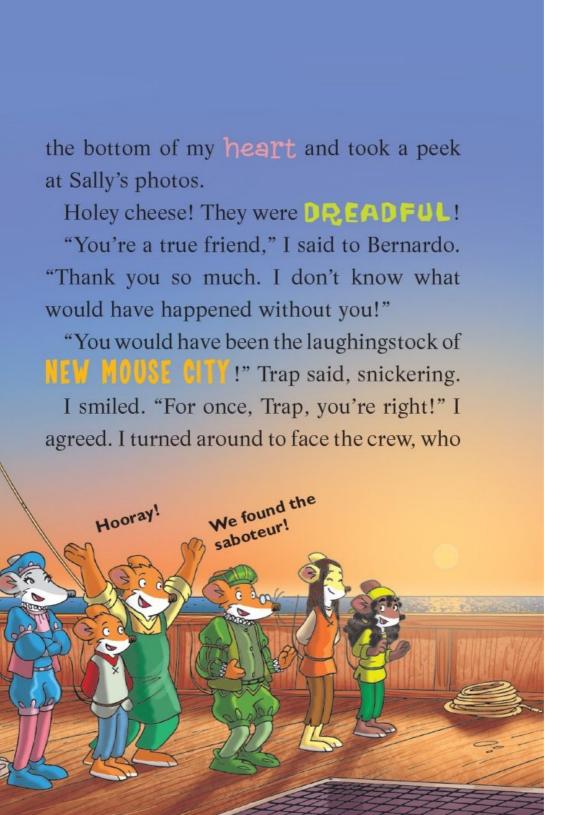
DOWN, Admiral. That **cheesebrain** won't be printing anything — because I have her photos!" he said triumphantly. "I took her

was talking. Hee, hee, hee!"

I was so relieved, I gave Bernardo a giant hug! I thanked him from

SALLY RATMOUSEN'S PHOTOS





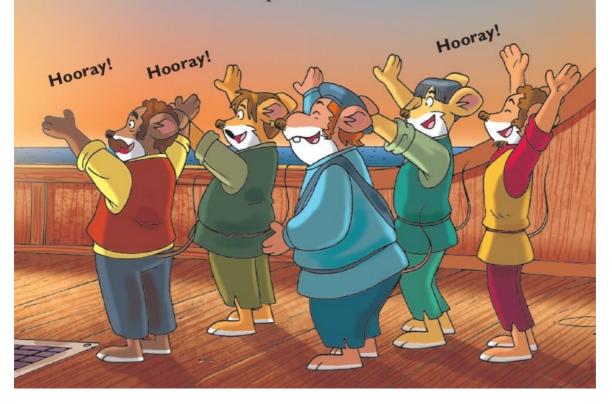
had gathered behind us. "Dear friends, all's well. We found the saboteur! To colorate, we'll have a great big party. Paulina will cook all her secret recipes!"

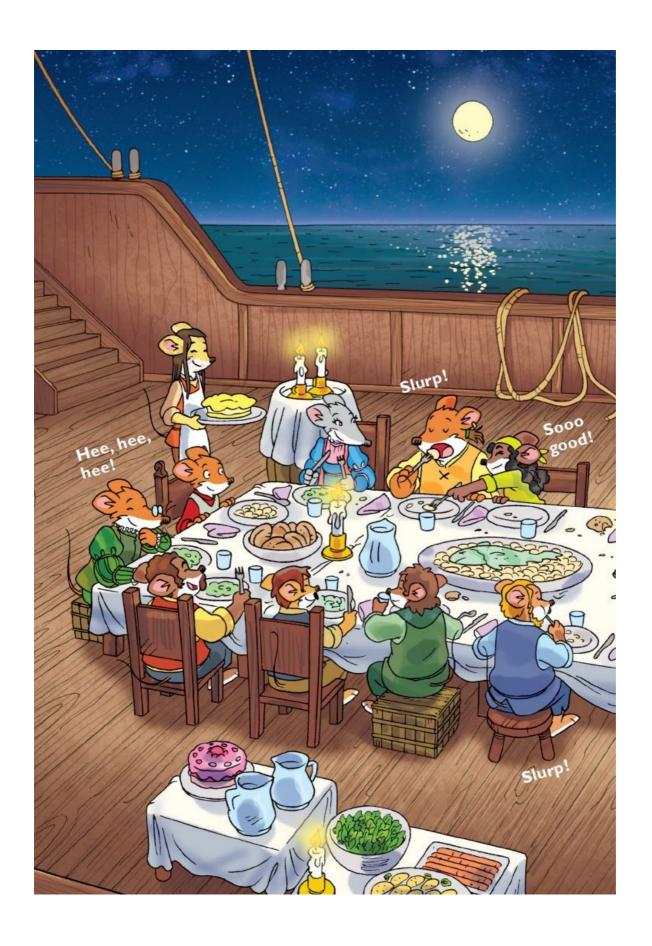
Everyone was THRILLED that the troublemaker had been United Sked.

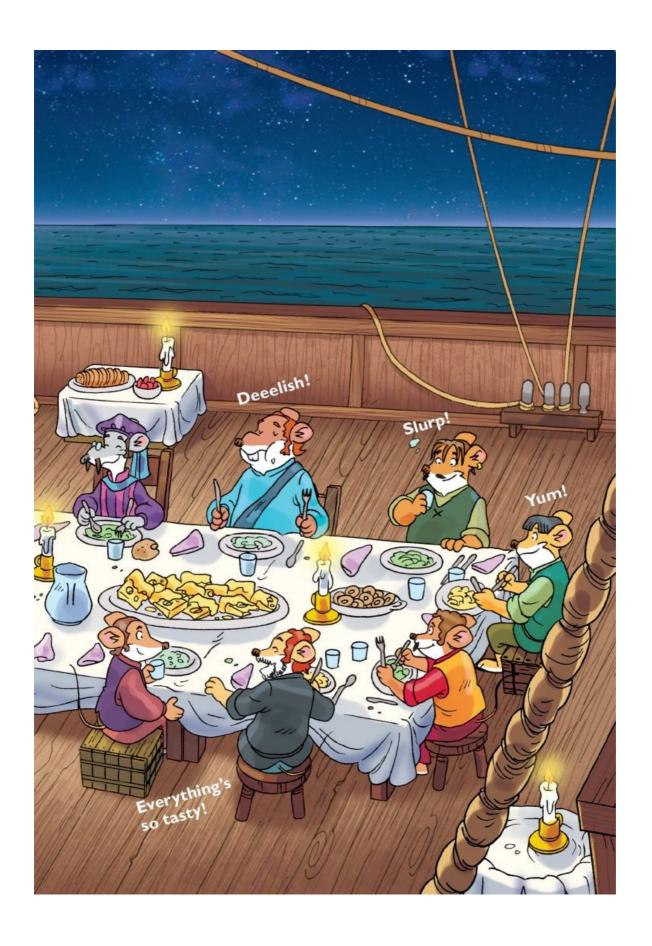
"Three cheers for Admiral Stilton!

In the moonlight a few hours later, we had a fabumouse banquet on the deck.

Hooray! Hooray! Hooray!"





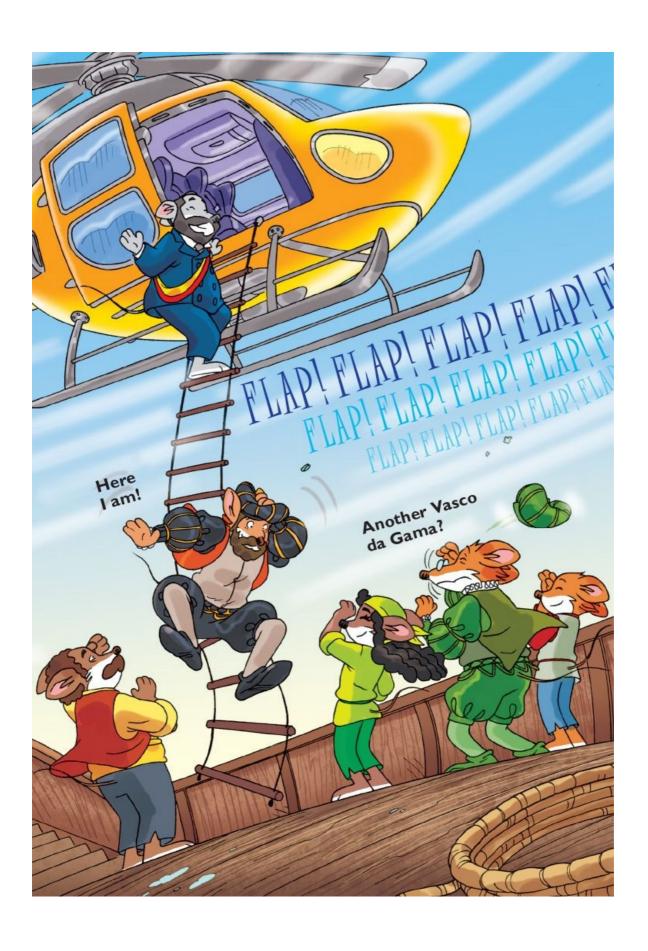




The following morning I woke up with a start. I heard a loud noise coming from above.

FLAP! FLAP!

The noise was getting LOUDER AND LOUDER! What could it be? I quickly got dressed and ran out on deck. A gusty wind nearly knocked me head over paws. Double-twisted rat tails! It was a helicopter! A few seconds later, Secretary Rattio



climbed down from the helicopter. With him was a rodent I didn't recognize, wearing a **Vasco pa Gama** costume just like mine. As soon as they touched the ground, the secretary came over to me.

"Mr. Stilton, 'm so sorry, but we've made a terrible mistake. You're actually not a descendant of Vasco da Gama. The real descendant is this gentlemouse, Victor da Gamouse!"



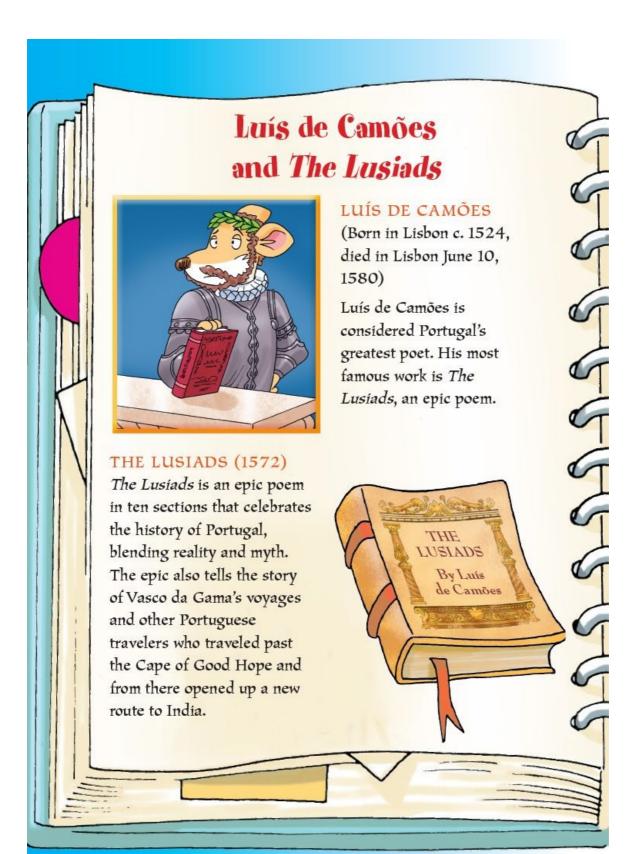
I shook Victor's paw. "Welcome aboard! I can tell right away that you are da Gama's descendant — you look just like him. You're a real slice off the old cheese block!"

The secretary looked **EMBARRASSED**.

"Our historians mixed up the two of you in their report. Mr. Stilton, you are really a descendant of **Luís de Camões**. He's famouse for having written *The Lusiads*, an epic poem which tells the **story** of Vasco da Gama's journey."

I couldn't believe my ears! "I'm the descendant of a **fabumouse** writer!" I said. "No need to apologize. I'm truly honored!"

Secretary Rattio cleared his throat. "Therefore, Mr. Stilton, I want to thank you for all you've done so far, especially for exposing the saboteur. But Victor will be taking over the rest of the Sea Voyage,"



he said, twisting his paws anxiously.

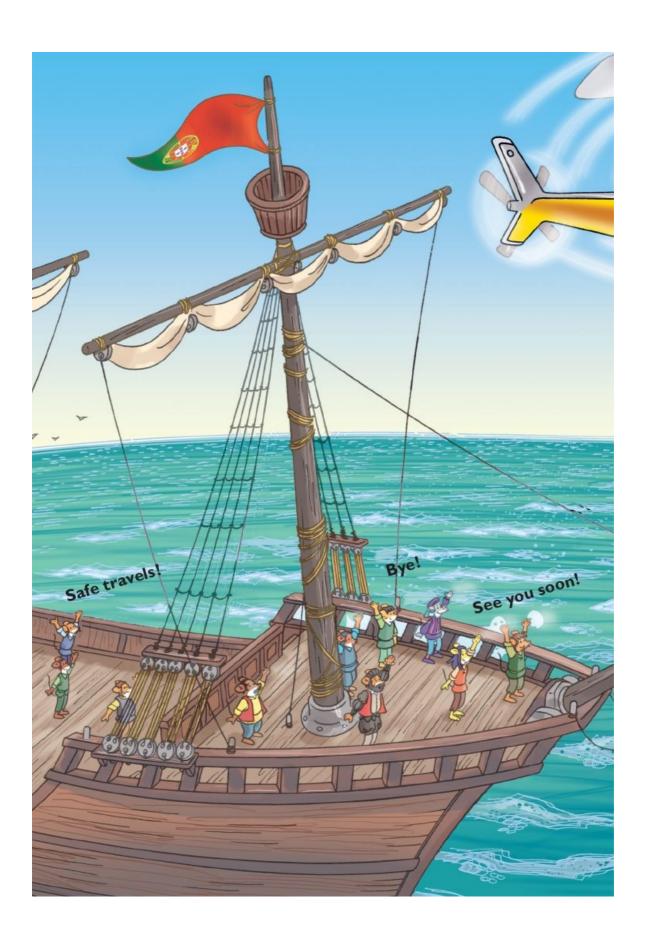
"I'm thrilled!" I exclaimed, relieved. "I can now honestly say that I don't know a thing about ships, sails, or navigation — and I get terribly **Seasick!**"

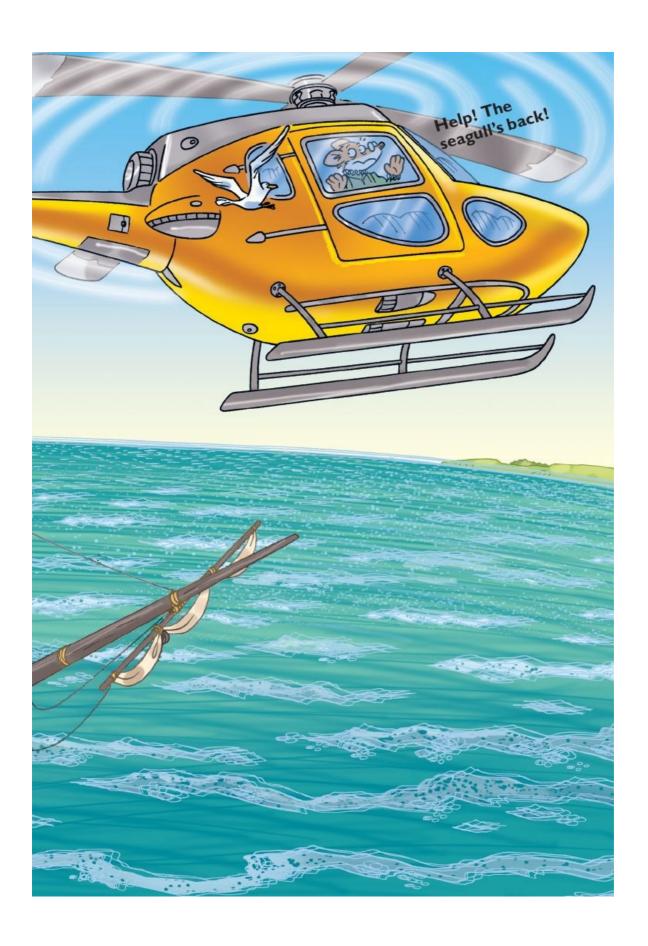
"In that case," Secretary Rattio said, "how would you feel about spending the rest of your time in Portugal holding a series of lectures on **Luís de Camões** and his epic poem *The Lusiads*?"

Thea, Trap, Bugsy Wugsy, and Benjamin answered for me, all shouting together. "We accept! When do we leave?"

"Right now, if you want!" the secretary responded. "We could set up a seminar tomorrow morning at the Belém tower."

We said good-bye to the crew and packed up all our things. Half an hour later, we took off in the helicopter. Destination: **Lisbon**!



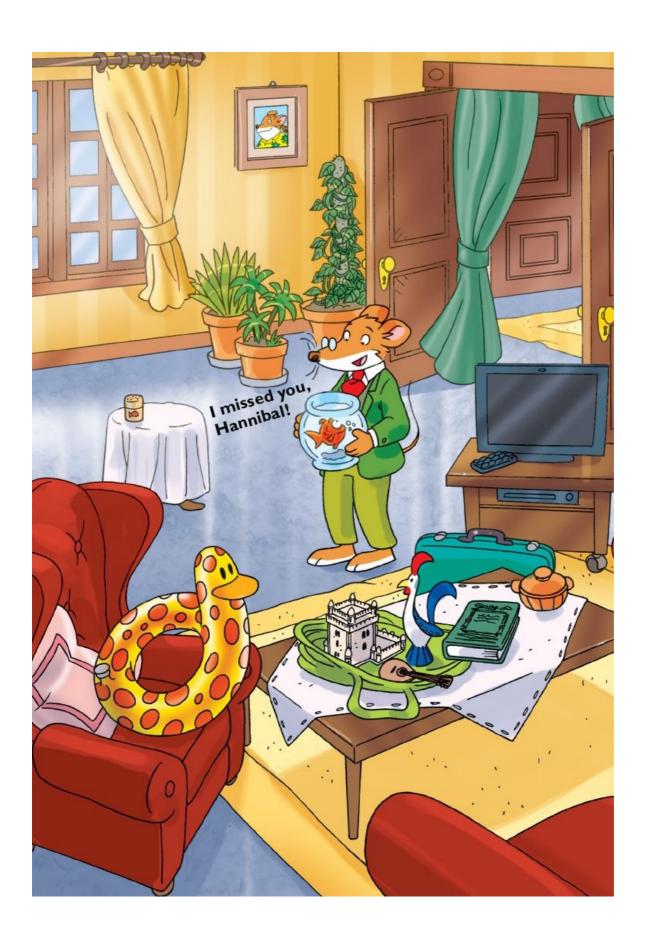




A week later, once the lectures were finished, we reluctantly left **Portugal** and returned to Mouse Island. Although I was glad to be back, I missed the **beautiful** places we had seen and all the new **friends** we had met: Secretary Rattio, Bernardo Almouse, Paulina Pecorina, and all the crewmice.

it had been a wonderful trip!

With a little regret, I unpacked my suitcase. Inside, I found the **Vasco** pa **Gabriel**'s voyage! The secretary must have





snuck it into my luggage while we were saying our good-byes. I carried it up to the attic, where I keep the mementos of my many other **ADVENTURES**.

In the suitcase was also an old and valuable **EDITION** of the works of **Luís de Camões**, my famouse ancestor. The books were given to me as a parting gift by the

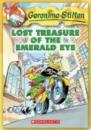


secretary. I took them to my library and placed them carefully on the bookcase, right in front of my desk. There, they'd always be close to me, and would remind me of LISBON and the boat voyage — and of a special piece of my heritage!

I couldn't wait to see what other mementos my future **journeys** would bring. And I know I'll do my great ancestor proud by **WRITING** about every adventure! Until next time, dear mouse friends!



Be sure to read all my fabumouse adventures!



#1 Lost Treasure of the Emerald Eye



#2 The Curse of the Cheese Pyramid



#3 Cat and Mouse in a Haunted House



#4 I'm Too Fond of My Fur!



#5 Four Mice Deep in the Jungle



#6 Paws Off, Cheddarface!



#7 Red Pizzas for a Blue Count



#8 Attack of the Bandit Cats



#9 A Fabumouse Vacation for Geronimo



#10 All Because of a



#11 It's Halloween, You 'Fraidy Mouse!



#12 Merry Christmas, Geronimo!



#13 The Phantom of the Subway



#14 The Temple of the Ruby of Fire



#15 The Mona Mousa Code



#16 A Cheese-Colored Camper



#17 Watch Your Whiskers, Stilton!



#18 Shipwreck on the Pirate Islands



#19 My Name Is Stilton, Geronimo Stilton



#20 Surf's Up, Geronimo!



#21 The Wild, Wild West



#22 The Secret of Cacklefur Castle



A Christmas Tale



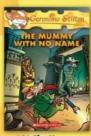
#23 Valentine's Day Disaster



#24 Field Trip to Niagara Falls



#25 The Search for Sunken Treasure



#26 The Mummy with No Name



#27 The Christmas Toy Factory



#28 Wedding Crasher



#29 Down and Out Down Under



#30 The Mouse Island Marathon



#31 The Mysterious Cheese Thief



Christmas Catastrophe



#32 Valley of the Giant Skeletons



#33 Geronimo and the



#34 Geronimo Stilton, Secret Agent



#35 A Very Merry Christmas



#36 Geronimo's Valentine



#37 The Race Across America



#38 A Fabomouse School Adventure



#39 Singing Sensation



#40 The Karate Mouse



#41 Mighty Mount Kilimanjaro



#42 The Peculiar Pumpkin Thief



#43 I'm Not a Supermouse!



#44 The Giant Diamond Robbery



#45 Save the White Whale!



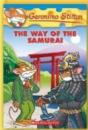
#46 The Haunted Castle



#47 Run for the Hills, Geronimo!



#48 The Mystery in Venice



#49 The Way of the Samurai



#50 This Hotel Is Haunted!



#51 The Enormouse Pearl Heist



#52 Mouse in Space!



#53 Rumble in the Jungle



#54 Get into Gear, Stilton!



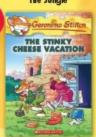
#55 The Golden Statue Plot



#56 Flight of the Red Bandit



The Hunt for the Golden Book



#57 The Stinky Cheese Vacation



#58 The Super Chef Contest



#59 Welcome to Moldy Manor



The Hunt for the Curious Cheese



#60 The Treasure of Easter Island



#61 Mouse House Hunter



#62 Mouse Overboard!

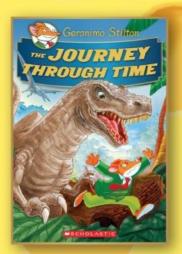


The Hunt for the Secret Papyrus





Join me and my friends as we travel through time in these very special editions!



THE JOURNEY
THROUGH TIME



BACK IN TIME:
THE SECOND JOURNEY
THROUGH TIME



THE RACE
AGAINST TIME:
THE THIRD JOURNEY
THROUGH TIME



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Thea Stilton and the Dragon's Code



Thea Stilton and the Mountain of Fire



Thea Stilton and the Ghost of the Shipwreck



Thea Stilton and the Secret City



Thea Stilton and the Mystery in Paris



Thea Stilton and the Cherry Blossom Adventure



Thea Stilton and the Star Castaways



Thea Stilton: Big Trouble in the Big Apple



Thea Stilton and the Ice Treasure



Thea Stilton and the Secret of the Old Castle



Thea Stilton and the Blue Scarab Hunt



Thea Stilton and the Prince's Emerald



Thea Stilton and the Mystery on the Orient Express



Thea Stilton and the Dancing Shadows



Thea Stilton and the Legend of the Fire Flowers



Thea Stilton and the Spanish Dance Mission



Thea Stilton and the Journey to the Lion's Den



Thea Stilton and the Great Tulip Heist



Thea Stilton and the Chocolate Sabotage



Thea Stilton and the Missing Myth



Thea Stilton and the Lost Letters



Thea Stilton and the Tropical Treasure

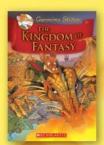


Thea Stilton and the Hollywood Hoax



Be sure to read all of our magical special edition adventures!





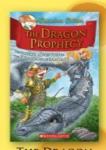
THE KINGDOM OF FANTASY



THE QUEST FOR PARADISE:
THE RETURN TO THE KINGDOM OF FANTASY



THE AMAZING
VOYAGE:
THE THIRD ADVENTURE
IN THE KINGDOM
OF FANTASY



THE DRAGON
PROPHECY:
THE FOURTH ADVENTURE
IN THE KINGDOM
OF FANTASY



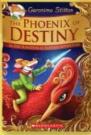
THE VOLCANO
OF FIRE:
THE FIFTH ADVENTURE
IN THE KINGDOM
OF FANTASY



THE SEARCH FOR TREASURE: THE SIXTH ADVENTURE IN THE KINGDOM OF FANTASY



THE ENCHANTED CHARMS:
THE SEVENTH ADVENTURE IN THE KINGDOM OF FANTASY



THE PHOENIX
OF DESTINY:
AN EPIC KINGDOM OF
FANTASY ADVENTURE



THE HOUR OF MAGIC: THE EIGHTH ADVENTURE IN THE KINGDOM OF FANTASY



THEA STILTON: THE JOURNEY TO ATLANTIS



THEA STILTON: THE SECRET OF THE FAIRIES



THEA STILTON: THE SECRET OF THE SNOW



THEA STILTON: THE CLOUD CASTLE

meet Geronimo Stiltonix

He is a spacemouse — the Geronimo
Stilton of a parallel universe! He is
captain of the spaceship *MouseStar 1*.
While flying through the cosmos, he visits
distant planets and meets crazy aliens.
His adventures are out of this world!









#1 Alien Escape

#2 You're Mine, Captain!

#3 Ice Planet Adventure

#4 The Galactic Goal



#5 Rescue Rebellion



#6 The Underwater Planet



#7 Beware! Space Junk!



Meet GERONIMO STILTONOOT

He is a cavemouse—Geronimo Stilton's ancient ancestor! He runs the stone newspaper in the prehistoric village of Old Mouse City. From dealing with dinosaurs to dodging meteorites, his life in the Stone Age is full of adventure!





ABOUT THE AUTHOR

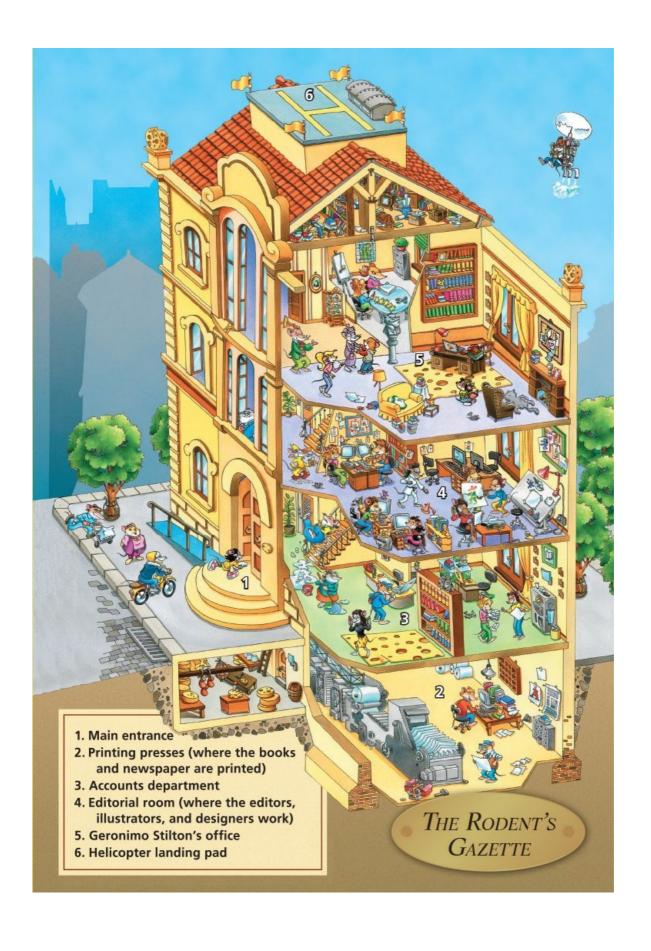


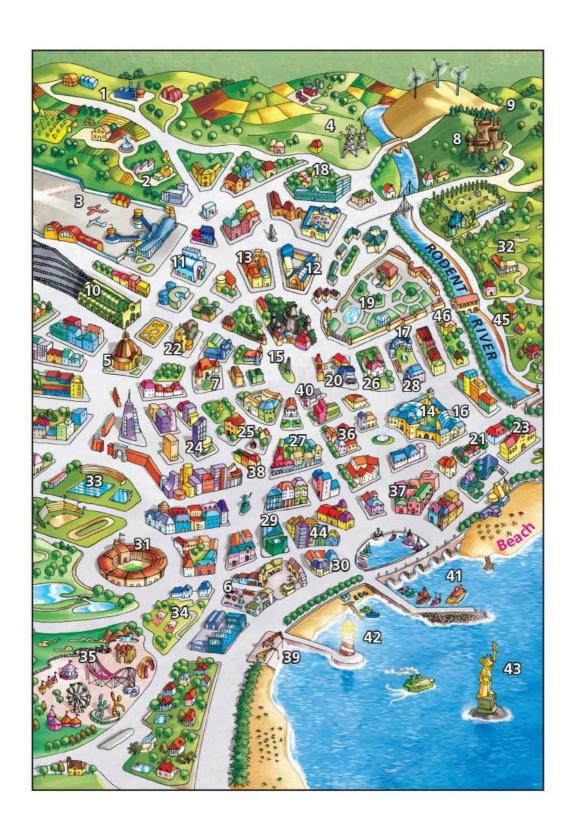
Born in New Mouse City, Mouse Island, **GERONIMO STILTON** is Rattus Emeritus of Mousomorphic Literature and of Neo-Ratonic Comparative Philosophy. For the past twenty years, he has been

running *The Rodent's Gazette*, New Mouse City's most widely read daily newspaper.

Stilton was awarded the Ratitzer Prize for his scoops on *The Curse of the Cheese Pyramid* and *The Search for Sunken Treasure*. He has also received the Andersen 2000 Prize for Personality of the Year. One of his bestsellers won the 2002 eBook Award for world's best ratlings' electronic book. His works have been published all over the globe.

In his spare time, Mr. Stilton collects antique cheese rinds and plays golf. But what he most enjoys is telling stories to his nephew Benjamin.

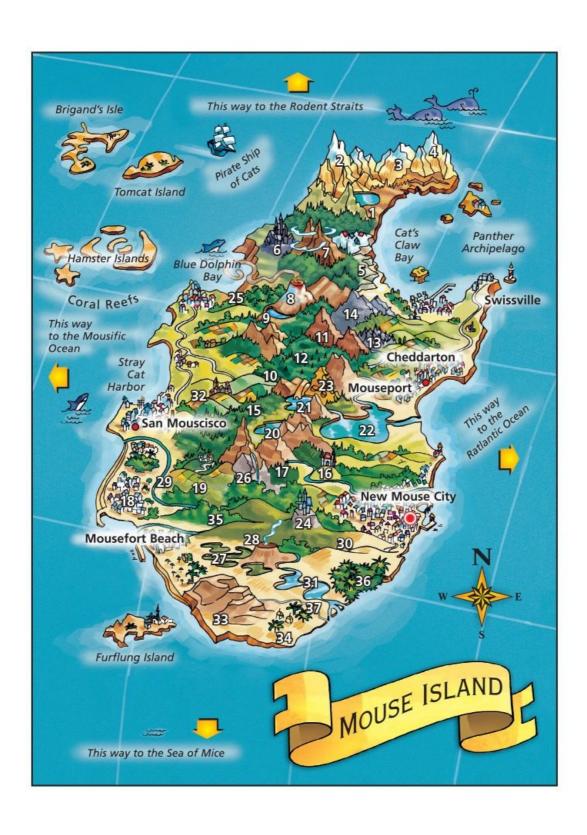




Map of New Mouse City

- 1. Industrial Zone
- 2. Cheese Factories
- 3. Angorat International Airport
- 4. WRAT Radio and Television Station
- 5. Cheese Market
- 6. Fish Market
- 7. Town Hall
- 8. Snotnose Castle
- 9. The Seven Hills of Mouse Island
- 10. Mouse Central Station
- 11. Trade Center
- 12. Movie Theater
- 13. Gym
- 14. Catnegie Hall
- 15. Singing Stone Plaza
- 16. The Gouda Theater
- 17. Grand Hotel
- 18. Mouse General Hospital
- 19. Botanical Gardens
- 20. Cheap Junk for Less (Trap's store)
- 21. Aunt Sweetfur and Benjamin's House
- 22. Mouseum of Modern Art
- 23. University and Library

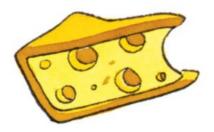
- 24. The Daily Rat
- 25. The Rodent's Gazette
- 26. Trap's House
- 27. Fashion District
- 28. The Mouse House Restaurant
- 29. Environmental Protection Center
- 30. Harbor Office
- 31. Mousidon Square Garden
- 32. Golf Course
- 33. Swimming Pool
- 34. Tennis Courts
- 35. Curlyfur Island Amousement Park
- 36. Geronimo's House
- 37. Historic District
- 38. Public Library
- 39. Shipyard
- 40. Thea's House
- 41. New Mouse Harbor
- 42. Luna Lighthouse
- 43. The Statue of Liberty
- 44. Hercule Poirat's Office
- 45. Petunia Pretty Paws's House
- 46. Grandfather William's House

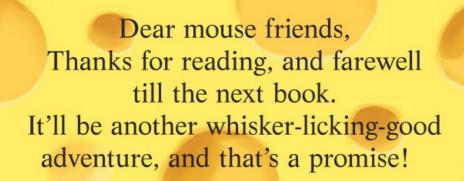


Map of Mouse Island

- 1. Big Ice Lake
- 2. Frozen Fur Peak
- 3. Slipperyslopes Glacier
- 4. Coldcreeps Peak
- 5. Ratzikistan
- 6. Transratania
- 7. Mount Vamp
- 8. Roastedrat Volcano
- 9. Brimstone Lake
- 10. Poopedcat Pass
- 11. Stinko Peak
- 12. Dark Forest
- 13. Vain Vampires Valley
- 14. Goose Bumps Gorge
- 15. The Shadow Line Pass
- 16. Penny Pincher Castle
- 17. Nature Reserve Park
- 18. Las Ratayas Marinas
- 19. Fossil Forest
- 20. Lake Lake

- 21. Lake Lakelake
- 22. Lake Lakelakelake
- 23. Cheddar Crag
- 24. Cannycat Castle
- 25. Valley of the Giant Sequoia
- 26. Cheddar Springs
- 27. Sulfurous Swamp
- 28. Old Reliable Geyser
- 29. Vole Vale
- 30. Ravingrat Ravine
- 31. Gnat Marshes
- 32. Munster Highlands
- 33. Mousehara Desert
- 34. Oasis of the Sweaty Camel
- 35. Cabbagehead Hill
- 36. Rattytrap Jungle
- 37. Rio Mosquito







Geronimo Stilton



GERONIMO STILTON



THEA



TRAP



BENJAMIN

Who is Geronimo Stilton?

That's me! I run a newspaper, but my true passion is writing adventure stories. Here in New Mouse City, the capital of Mouse Island, my books are all bestsellers! My stories are funny, fa-mouse-ly funny. They are whisker-licking-good tales, and that's a promise!

MOUSE OVERBOARD!

My family and I were invited to Lisbon, Portugal, to retrace the journey of the great explorer Vasco da Gama. He was the first European to reach India by sea — and was apparently an ancestor of the Stiltons! But once we got on the boat, I learned that someone was trying to sabotage the voyage. Could I figure out who?

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